



Pacific Islands Critical Habitat Update

Aloha!

Welcome to the second edition of the Pacific Islands Critical Habitat Update, a way for the Fish and Wildlife Service to keep you informed on the events concerning designation of critical habitat in Hawaii and the Mariana islands. In this edition we have included a new section “Published Final Rules,” which will give the CFR and Part numbers of all Critical Habitat Final Rules, to assist in locating them in the *Federal Register*.

If there are any questions or suggestions on the material printed, or you would like more information, please feel free to contact us at:

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Mahalo for your continued interest in Pacific islands critical habitat!

Paul Henson
Field Supervisor



Kanaloa kahoolawensis

MEETINGS

Our staff is meeting with various scientists, land owners, land managers, and stakeholder groups in a continuing effort to receive input and improve critical habitat proposals. Some of the recent meetings are listed below.

TO DATE

Participants	Date	Location
Statewide Plants; The Nature Conservancy, Hawaii (TNCH)	August 2, 2002	TNCH, Oahu
Kauai and Lanai Plants; Patsy Mink and Staff	August 2, 2002	Patsy Mink's Office
Big Island Plants; Queen Emma Foundation, Hancock	August 21, 2002	Big Island
Big Island Plants and BSM; Hawaii Cattleman's Association	August 23, 2002	Big Island
Molokai Plants; Public Meeting; Community	August 26, 2002	Mitchell Pauole Center, Molokai
Maui Plants and Blackburn's sphinx moth (BSM) Public Meeting; Community	August 27, 2002	Arts and Cultural Center, Maui
Molokai Plants; Puu O Hoku Ranch	August 27, 2002	Puu O Hoku Ranch
Mauai Plants; Maui Nui Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) Staff	August 29, 2002	Maui Nui DOFAW Baseyard, Maui
Maui Plants; Haleakala Ranch	August 30, 2002	Haleakala Ranch

UPCOMING

Participants	Date	Time	Location
Kauai Public Information Meeting	September 4, 2002	5:00-8:00pm	Waimea Neighborhood Center, Kauai
Kauai Public Information Meeting	September 5, 2002	5:00-8:00pm	KCC Performing Arts Center, Lihue, Kauai
Molokai Public Hearing	September 9, 2002	3:30-4:30pm* 6:00-8:00pm**	Mitchell Pauole Center, Kaunakakai, Molokai
Maui Public Hearing (Plants and Blackburn's sphinx moth)	September 12, 2002	3:30-4:30pm* 5:30-8:30pm**	Maui Arts and Cultural Center, Kahului, Maui
Maui Public Information Meeting	September 26, 2002	4:30-7:00pm	Arts and Cultural Center, Maui
Big Island Public Information Meeting	October 8, 2002	5:30-8:30pm	State Office Rm. B&C, Hilo, Big Island
Big Island Public Information Meeting	October 9, 2002	5:00-8:00pm	Waimea Civic Center, Big Island
Big Island Public Hearing (Plants and Blackburn's sphinx moth)	TBA	TBA	Kailua-Kona, Big Island
Big Island Public Hearing	TBA	TBA	Hilo, Big Island
Oahu Public Hearing	TBA	TBA	Honolulu, Oahu
Guam Public Hearing	TBA	TBA	Guam
Rota Species Public Hearing	TBA	TBA	Rota

* The Question and Answer period allows the Service to respond immediately to any questions that you may have. The Service will also have maps, handouts, and staff biologist on hand.

** During the Public Hearing period, the Service will take testimony but will not be answering any questions.

PEER/STAKEHOLDER REVIEW

Critical habitat peer/stakeholder review packages are sent out to scientists, land managers, and stakeholders such as hunting associations to request their comments on the proposed rule and the economic analysis. These comments help bring out new information, assess current scientific knowledge, and provide general viewpoints of the reviewers if they do or do not support the proposals.

Included in the packages sent to reviewers is the *Federal Register* notice, a fact sheet about the package (i.e., Kauai plants or Newcomb's snail), and two maps. One map shows the area of the plants in relation to where critical habitat is proposed and the other shows plants and tax districts. In this way, the reviewer can see if the area delineated is part of a conservation district, state park or on private land. The economic analysis is also sent when it becomes available.

When packages are sent out, a reviewer has about 45- 60 days to respond. If the economic analysis is not available at the time the package is published, the reviewers will have another 30 days to respond with comments once it is available.

Package	Number of Reviewers	Number of Comments Received to Date
Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Plants	9	1
Kauai/Niihau Plants	21	7
Oahu Plants	17	2
Maui/Kahoolawe Plants	17	8
Molokai Plants	15	4
Lanai Plants	12	3
Big Island Plants	21	1
Newcomb's Snail	6	6
Kauai Cave Invertebrate	5	5
Blackburn's Sphinx Moth	14	8
Guam and Rota species	N/A	N/A

PUBLISHED FINAL RULES

To assist in locating the Final Rule in the *Federal Register*, we have listed the rule with the information that you need to know. The *Federal Register* can be found on the web at: pacificislands.fws.gov under critical habitat updates.

RULE	DATE PUBLISHED	50 CFR Part 17
Oahu elepaio	December 10, 2001	RIN 1018-AG99
Newcomb's snail	August 20, 2002	RIN 1018-AH94

STATUS OF PROPOSALS AND CURRENT COURT ORDERED DEADLINES

RULE	PROPOSED RULE PUBLISHED IN <i>FEDERAL REGISTER</i>	END COMMENT PERIOD	EXPECTED RELEASE DATE OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS	COMMENT PERIOD REOPENED	END OF REOPENED COMMENT PERIOD	FINAL RULE SUBMITTED TO <i>FEDERAL REGISTER</i>
Northwestern Hawaiian Islands	May 14, 2002	July 15, 2002	TBA	<i>August 26, 2002</i>	<i>Sept. 30, 2002</i>	April 30, 2003
Kauai/ Niihau	Jan. 28, 2002	March 29, 2002	May 28, 2002	<i>August 26, 2002</i>	<i>Sept. 30, 2002</i>	Jan. 31, 2003
Oahu	May 28, 2002	July 29, 2002	TBA	<i>August 26, 2002</i>	<i>Sept. 30, 2002</i>	April 30, 2003
Maui/Kahoolawe	April 3, 2002	June 3, 2002	TBA	<i>August 26, 2002</i>	<i>Sept. 30, 2002</i>	April 18, 2003
Molokai	April 5, 2002	June 4, 2002	August 12, 2002	<i>August 26, 2002</i>	<i>Sept. 30, 2002</i>	Feb. 28, 2003
Lanai	March 4, 2002	May 3, 2002	June 16, 2002	<i>July 15, 2002</i>	<i>August 30, 2002</i>	Dec. 30, 2002
Big Island	May 28, 2002	July 29, 2002	TBA	<i>August 26, 2002</i>	<i>Sept. 30, 2002</i>	May 30, 2003
Newcomb's Snail	Jan. 28, 2002	Feb. 28, 2002	March 21, 2002			August 10, 2002
Kauai Cave Invertebrates	March 27, 2002	May 28, 2002	TBA	TBA	TBA	<i>March 30, 2003*</i>
Blackburn's Sphinx Moth	June 13, 2002	August 12, 2002	TBA	<i>August 26, 2002</i>	<i>Dec. 30, 2002</i>	<i>May 30, 2003*</i>
Guam Species	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	June 1, 2003

Italicized print indicates changes from the last edition.

Shaded boxes are dates past.

CRITICAL HABITAT DEADLINE EXTENSIONS (* Dates pending agreement)

The Service is currently negotiating with the Plaintiffs for extensions to court ordered deadlines. These extensions will allow more time for public input, coordination with local communities, and economic analysis. Public Comment periods will be reopened as these extensions are granted.